

REPORT
ON
SECOND STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP OF THE MANGROVES AS
NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS TO COASTAL HAZARDS IN EASTERN
GHANA (MANCOGA) PROJECT



14TH OCTOBER 2022
VIRTUAL MEETING - ZOOM PLATFORM



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1.0 BACKGROUND

The second stakeholder workshop of the Mangrove as Nature-based Solutions to Coastal Hazards in Eastern Ghana (MANCOGA) Project was held virtually on Friday, 14th October 2022 via Zoom. The MANCOGA team however arranged for some community-level stakeholders to participate in the meeting at a specific location due to internet and technical constraints. The workshop drew 47 participants, 37 of whom were men and 10 of whom were women. These included representatives from Ministries, Departments and Agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, the Community-based organisations, and core MANCOGA team members from the University of Ghana and the Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon in Germany. See **Appendix II** for list of participants.

2.0 OPENING

The meeting commenced at 10:00 am with a brief introduction by participants, and followed by welcome remarks by the Co-lead of MANCOGA.

2.1 Welcome Remarks and Purpose of Meeting Delivered by Dr. Holger Brix, Co-Lead, MANCOGA

Dr. Brix welcomed all participants to MANCOGA's second stakeholder workshop, he mentioned that he was very happy that the project was progressing and thanked stakeholders for their commitment and dedication to the course. He discussed how the eastern coast of Ghana is plagued by coastal hazards and how factors such as a lack of data, insufficient communication structures among stakeholders, and a lack of pathways to informed decisions with sustained impact affect the management of these issues. He also highlighted MANCOGA's goal of utilizing mangroves as nature-based solutions in mitigating coastal hazards along Ghana's eastern coast.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

Below is a summary of presentations delivered during the workshop. Copy the link below and paste it into your browser to access full presentations.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jvnWVfk1LZ5zE-wb5LmIXQdcqC7yZekw?usp=sharing>

1. *Feedback from First Stakeholder Workshop*: Presented by Antoinette Kailey Ankrah, Project Coordinator, MANCOGA. This presentation briefed participants on the outcome of the first stakeholder workshop by providing participants with information such as number of attendees, participating institutions, the outcome of the pre and post evaluation, criticisms and suggestions from stakeholders that will guide the team in planning future workshops.
2. *Introduction to the Collaboration Tool*: Presented by Dr. David Kaiser & Senyo Adzah, Research Scientist and Research Assistant, MANCOGA. This presentation reintroduced

participants to the MANCOGA Community collaboration tool and walked participants through the registration process.

3. *Development of Draft Theory of Change (ToC)*: Presented by Dr. Christiane Eschenbach and Dr. Yaw Atiglo. This presentation focused on the need to develop a Theory of Change, and informed participants about the overarching goal of the project as well as the scope and capacity of the MANCOGA project and the role stakeholders ought to play in achieving the desired change.

4.0 TRAILER VIDEO ON THE MANCOGA PROJECT

Participants were shown a trailer video on the MANCOGA project which entailed excerpts from the first stakeholder workshop, field visits and interviews of some stakeholders. The link to the video can be found below

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/10JgBzX2isl9GEe6GJQXG8Phj6BI2J4x5/view?usp=drivesdk>

5.0 DRAFTING OF THEORY OF CHANGE

This session was facilitated by Dr. Yaw Atiglo; Co-lead of the Co-design Phase. He informed participants that two main themes that emerged from the initial stakeholder workshop were Alternative Livelihoods and Coastal Protection and further tasked participants to draft a Theory of Change together based on the two themes. Participants were urged to share their thoughts in the drafting of the Theory of Change to ensure a participatory process. The whiteboard function in Zoom was used for this interactive session. See **Appendix III** to access the draft Theory of Change.

6.0 GENERAL DISCUSSIONS

A participant pointed out that Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority was omitted from the MANCOGA video, despite being a relevant stakeholder. The MANCOGA team took note and assured him the omission will be rectified.

A participant indicated that the desired state of the project or long-term change should be a long-term development goal rather than a mangrove goal. He went on to say that the interest of MANCOGA's stakeholders, who are mainly politicians and community members, is likely to be a change in the people's living conditions, as they may not be directly interested in mangroves, and suggested restored mangroves as a medium-term outcome.

A participant stated that the primary source of income for most mangrove-dependent communities was fishing; however, because the resources or income from fishing were no longer sufficient, they turned to mangrove harvesting. He stated that in order to address the issue of overdependence on mangroves, MANCOGA should consider measures to restore fisheries generation in the Keta lagoon complex.

A participant mentioned the importance of community engagement in order to understand what livelihood options community members are interested in. Another participant added that to achieve successful outcomes, key community members such as chiefs, community leaders, pastors, and chief fishermen ought to be targeted during community engagements and sensitization programs. She further explained that these individuals have influence and will be able to persuade community members to effect the necessary change.

According to one participant, the fishing communities in Songor enclaves have the perception that using mangroves as fuelwood gives the fish a good taste and helps preserve them. He proposed that the fishing communities be massively educated on the negative effects of their perception on the ecology, and that MANCOGA provide these communities with energy stoves for smoking and preserving fish.

Participants were informed that the youth were the primary source of labour for mangrove harvesting and that if these youth were engaged in a skill or trade, it would drastically reduce mangrove harvesting in the community because they would be preoccupied. Participants were further informed that some Members of Parliament and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) had begun enrolling some of the youth who had dropped out of school in vocational training and suggested that MANCOGA provides sponsorship to some youths. The co-lead of MANCOGA explained that the funding agency has certain rules about what can be done and that this may be beyond MANCOGA's capabilities.

7.0 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Participants were assigned into four breakout rooms for 30 minutes and were tasked to discuss the following:

Group 1- Enablers to sustainable and alternative livelihoods for mangrove dependent communities

Group 2 - Barriers to sustainable and alternative livelihoods for mangrove dependent communities

Group 3 - Enablers to using mangroves as nature-based solutions as an alternative/ complement to hard engineering solutions

Group 4 - Barriers to using mangroves as nature-based solutions as an alternative/ complement to hard engineering solutions.

Each group selected a chairperson to facilitate their discussions and a rapporteur to report back to the entire group in the plenary. After the breakout sessions each group was allowed to make a presentation on their discussions. A summary of group presentations can be found below in **Appendix IV**

8.0 CLOSING

Participants were provided with the link to the evaluation form via Google Forms and were encouraged to complete the forms at their earliest convenience. See **Appendix V** for evaluation feedback

Dr. Brix thanked stakeholders for their participation and significant contributions and reminded them that the third and final stakeholder workshop for the co-design phase would be held in-person on 2nd November 2022.

The meeting came to a successful close at 1:30 pm GMT.

APPENDIX I: WORKSHOP AGENDA



MANGROVES AS NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS TO COASTAL HAZARDS IN EASTERN GHANA (MANCOGA) PROJECT

SECOND STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

FRIDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2022

VIRTUAL MEETING – ZOOM PLATFORM

Time	Item	Facilitator
10:00 – 10:10	Round of Introductions	All
10:10 – 10:15	Welcome Remarks/ Purpose of Meeting	Dr. Holger Brix (Co-lead, MANCOGA)
10:15 – 10:25	Feedback from the First Stakeholder Workshop	Ms. Antoinette Ankrah (Project Coordinator, MANCOGA)
10:25 – 10:35	Presentation on the Collaboration Tool	Mr. Senyo Adzah & Dr. David Kaiser (Research Assistant & Research Scientist, MANCOGA)
10:35 – 11:15	Development of the MANCOGA Draft Theory of Change	Dr. Christiane Eschenbach & Dr. Yaw Atiglo (Co-lead, Co-design Phase, MANCOGA)
Break Out Sessions		
11:15 – 11:35	Discussions on Barriers and Enablers to Mangroves as Nature-based Solutions	Dr. Christiane Eschenbach & Dr. Yaw Atiglo (Co-lead, Co-design Phase, MANCOGA)
Plenary Session		
11:35 – 11:55	Reporting	Group Leads
11:55 – 12:15	General Discussion	All
12:15 – 12:30	Evaluation/ Closing	

APPENDIX II: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NO	NAME OF REPRESENTATIVE	INSTITUTION	GENDER
1.	Emelyne Wright-Hanson	Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation	F
2.	Isaac Dakurah	Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation	M
3.	Safiatsu Seidu	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources	F
4.	Ing. Maxwell Zu-Cudjoe	Environmental Protection Agency	M
5.	Donnan Tay	Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources	M
6.	Ebenezer Ntsiful	Land Use & Spatial Planning Authority	M
7.	Dickson Agyeman	Forestry Commission	M
8.	Lawrence Kisseh Tetteh-Ocloo	Keta Lagoon Complex Ramsar Site, Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission	M
9.	Ernestina Larbi-Mensah	Coastal Development Authority	F
10.	Mustapha Adamah	Ghana Maritime Authority	M
11.	Hoenyedzi Godson Kafui	Hydrological Services Department	M
12.	Henrietta Asante-Sarpong	National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE)	F
13.	Irene Amihere	National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE)	F
14.	Ernest Apenkwah	Songor Ramsar Site, Ada	M
15.	Gershon Kwadzo Tudoabor	South Tongu District Assembly	M
16.	Wisdom Attigah	Anloga District Assembly	M
17.	Lawrence Awunyo	Keta Municipal Assembly	M
18.	Redeemer M. Sosa	Ketu- South Municipal Assembly	M
19.	Mohammed Halisu Adam	Ketu- South Municipal Assembly	M
20.	John Lumor	Mangrove Planters Association	M
21.	Kugbe Gershon	Mangrove Harvesters Association	M
22.	Elikplim Ametepey	Mangrove Transporters Association	M
23.	Moses Agbenyegah	Mangrove Retailers Association	M
24.	Bright Elorm Doviavu	National Disaster Management Organisation	M
25.	Raphael De-Souza	National Disaster Management Organisation	M
26.	Samuel Brass Dedzo	Land Owners Association	M
27.	Vance Kwaku Adedze	Chief Fisherman	M
28.	Lotsu Raymond	Salt Miners Association	M

29.	Daniel Dunyah	Farmers Association	M
30.	Bright Adzagba	Keta Ramsar Center	M
31.	Raphel Ahiakpe	Sea Water Solutions	M
32.	Eunice Ofoli-Anum	FSSD- Fisheries Commission	F
33.	David Akraasi	Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development	M
34.	Chris Gordon	University of Ghana	M
35.	Kwasi Appeaning Addo	University of Ghana	M
36.	Philip-Neri Jayson-Quashigah	University of Ghana	M
37.	Donatus Yaw Atiglo	University of Ghana	M
38.	Senyo Adzah	University of Ghana	M
39.	Antoinette K. Ankrah	University of Ghana	F
40.	Benjamin Botwe	University of Ghana	M
41.	Andy Agyekum	University of Ghana	M
42.	Holger Brix	Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Germany	M
43.	David Kaiser	Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Germany	M
44.	Christiane Eschenbach	Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Germany	F
45.	Joanna Staneva	Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Germany	F
46.	Bughsin' Djath	Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Germany	F
47.	Bryce Van Dam	Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Germany	M

APPENDIX III: DRAFT THEORY OF CHANGE: ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOOD

PROBLEM	ACTIVITY	OUTPUT	OUTCOME
Poverty Overdependence on mangroves	Workshops/discussions with policy makers Assist in training of local people in mangrove management. Monitor the effects of mangrove management Apprenticeship Support forestry commission to nurse and distribute more seedlings for planting in communities	Restored fishery in lagoon complex	Change in living conditions Reduction in poverty
Low level of awareness and knowledge on the importance of mangrove	Rigorous sensitization to raise awareness on the negative effects of over dependence on the mangroves. Establish good communication links with all mangrove actors in Keta Lagoon Complex Community engagement	Improved mangrove management systems successfully introduced where needed Improved information flow between stakeholders	

Weak laws or policies for mangroves protection	Compile and provide information on mangrove management measures to policy makers and planners Establish community woodlots	Mangrove management system established Appropriate policies recommended Improved mangrove management systems successfully introduced where needed	
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APPENDIX IV: SUMMARY FROM BREAKOUT GROUPS

GROUP 1 Enablers to Alternative Livelihoods	GROUP 2 Barriers to Alternative Livelihoods	GROUP 3 Enablers to Coastal Protection	GROUP 4 Barriers to Coastal Protection
• Not overpromising/managing expectations • Data: Historical antecedents of livelihoods • Comprehensive livelihood assessment (situation/history/potential) • Community buy-in / Community ownership • Leveraging on existing national livelihood • Synergy with national policies programmes/ policies • Modelling approach: comprehensive analysis of stakeholder capacities/skills/potential	• Unavailability of knowledge on alternative sustainable livelihoods • Unavailability of resources to implement alternative livelihoods • Need for dataset of potential livelihoods • Absence of data (historical patterns) • Fear of failure (uncertainty) in alternative livelihood options	• Suitable location for mangrove varieties should be determined and known be established or planted • Dredging of the estuary • Mixed conservation of mangroves and coconut plant provided they can thrive well • Education and sensitization • Community dialogues with relevant stakeholders	• Local and national regulation frameworks are not well mapped out • Coastal protection guidelines should be updated and become more effective • Interdepartmental conflicts over jurisdiction • Funding issues • Lack of laws and regulations to protect mangroves • Expansion of infrastructure and industry such as salt winning, salt works and waterworks • Damming of river reduced sediment input, upsetting erosion vs deposition balance

contribution and assign as appropriate • Gender sensitivity/mainstreaming			• Urbanization and lack of land for housing development • Indigenous knowledge, culture among others that negatively affects the coastal line should be considered • Lack of awareness about the function of mangroves for coastal protection • Indigenous knowledge of the local people towards protecting the Coastal landscape • Increase in population also affects the dependency on mangroves • Poverty and population pressure • Fragmented landownership along the coast • No other (major) vegetation apart from mangroves available as source of wood
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			(energy sources) contributes to overexploitation of mangroves • Salt water intrusion (during sea surge) damages mangroves - reducing coastal protection • (Global) climate change: storms, sea surges, SLR • High energy in the area does not allow mangroves growing on the beach directly
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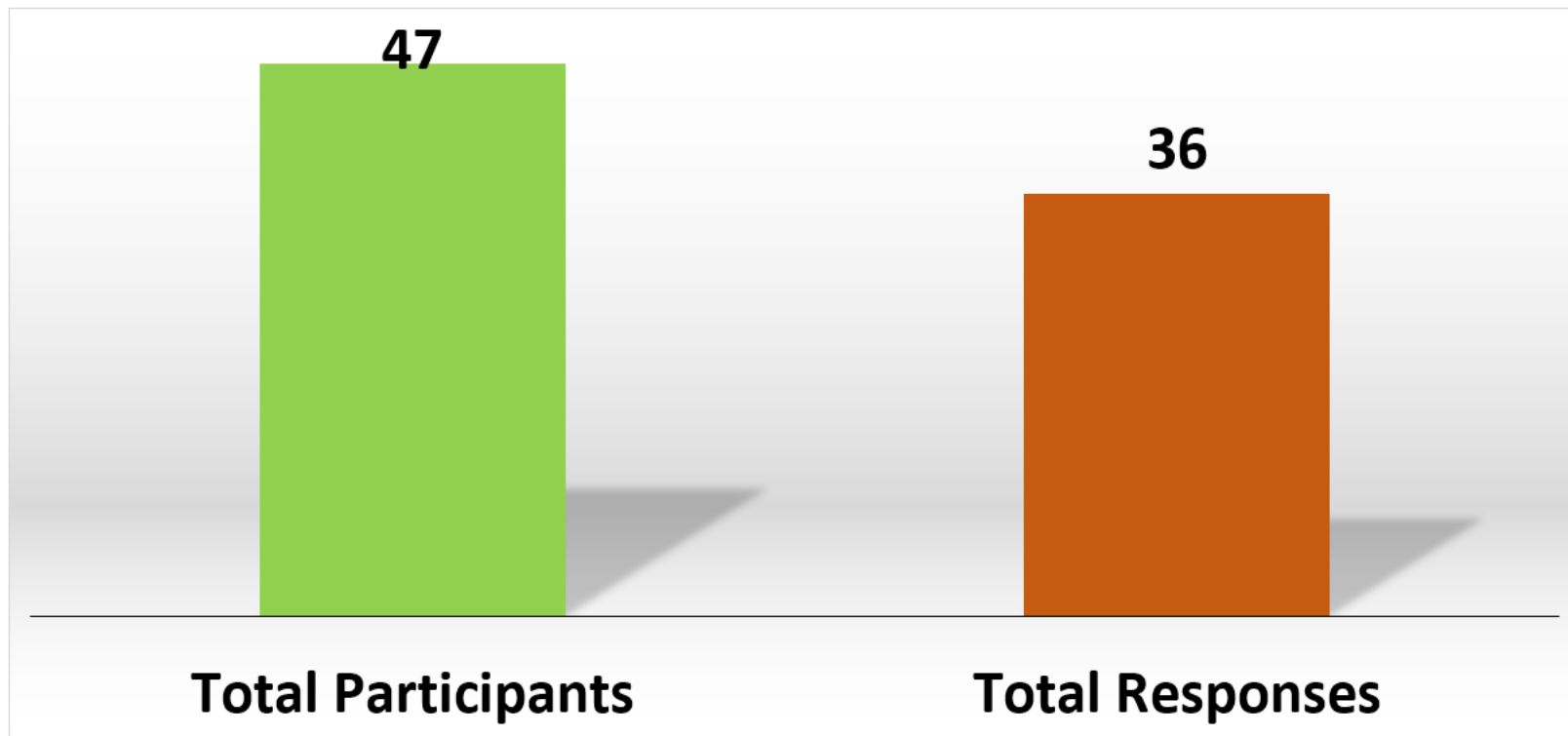
2ND MANCOGA National Stakeholder Workshop: EVALUATION



Senyo Adzah

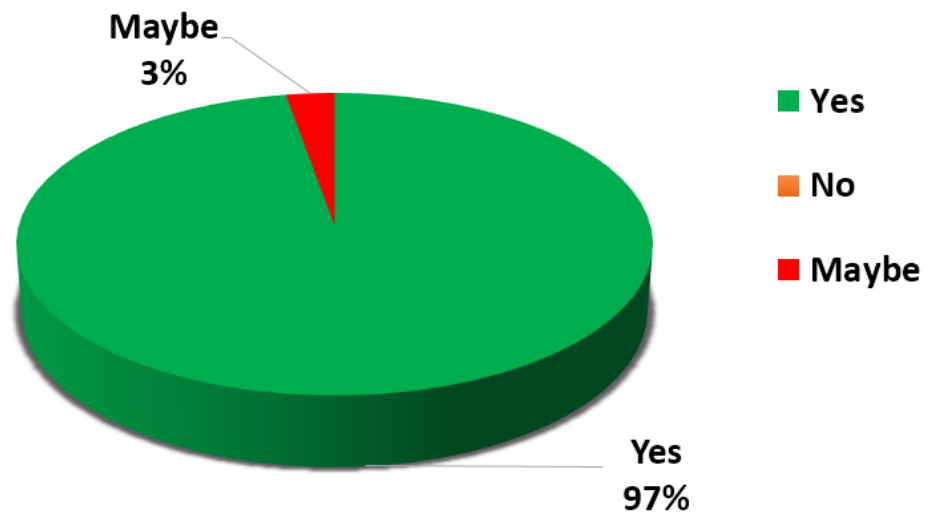


Evaluation



Evaluation

Did the workshop meet your expectations?

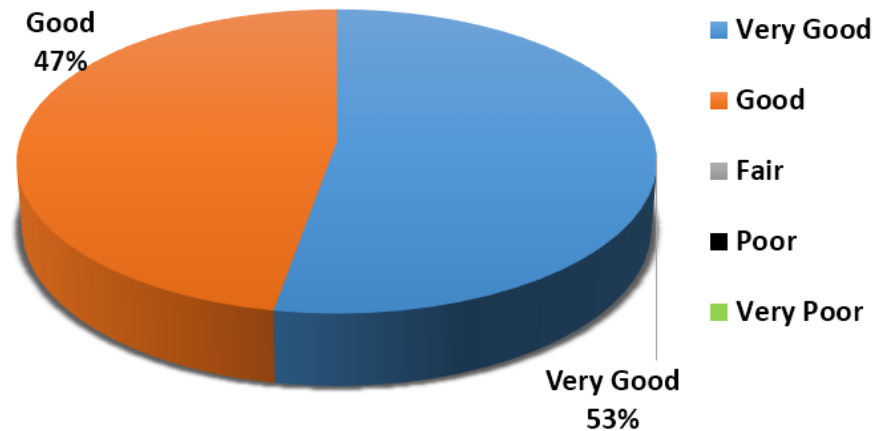


When asked why?

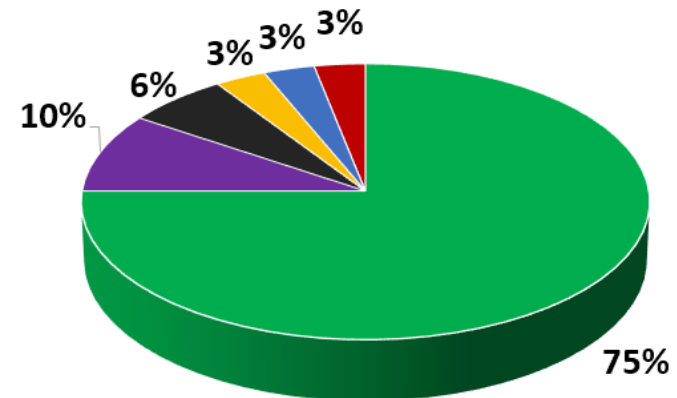
“Theory of Change could not be developed”

Evaluation

How useful was the workshop?



What was your favourite experience or moment of the workshop?

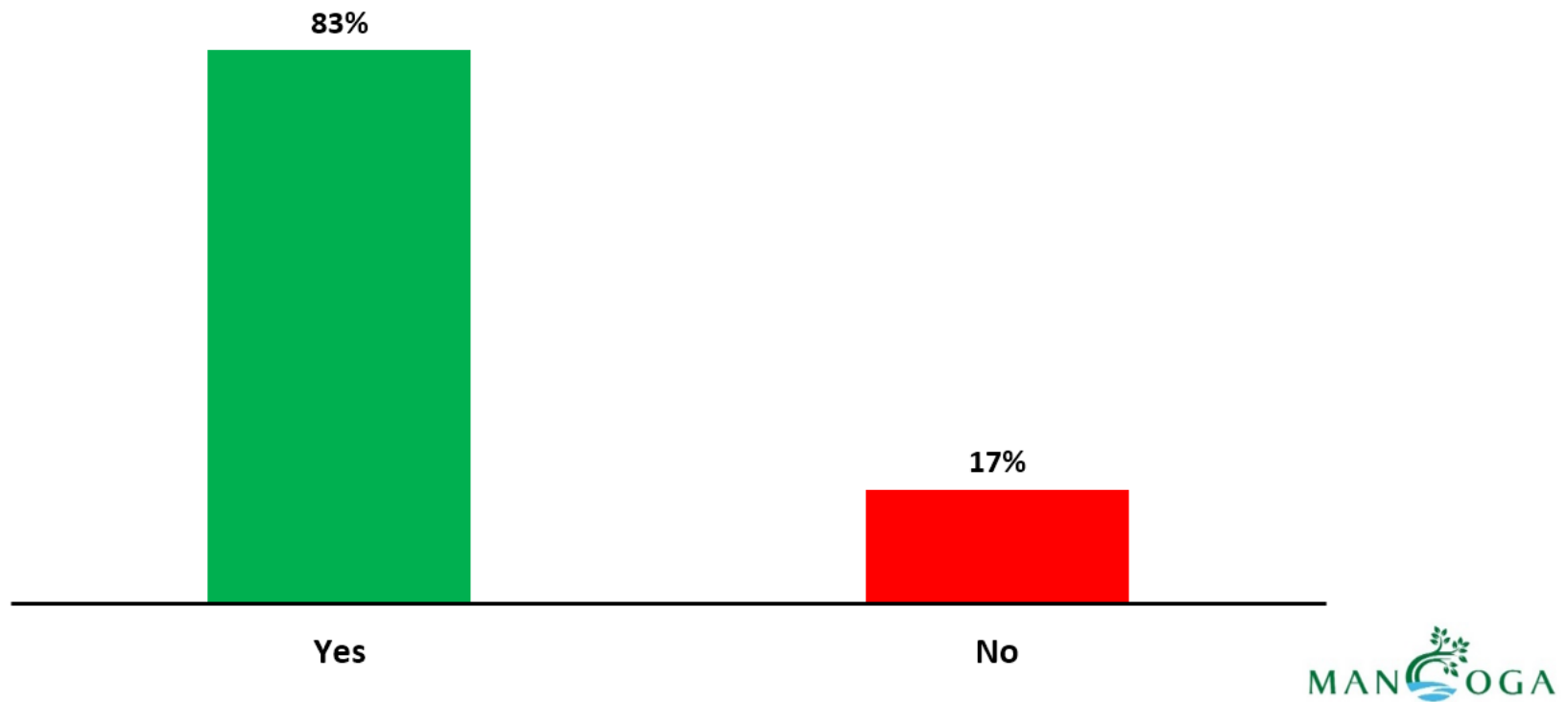


- Break out / group work session
- The clarity of presentations
- knowledge gained
- Opportuned to express views
- Opportunity to use zoom
- All

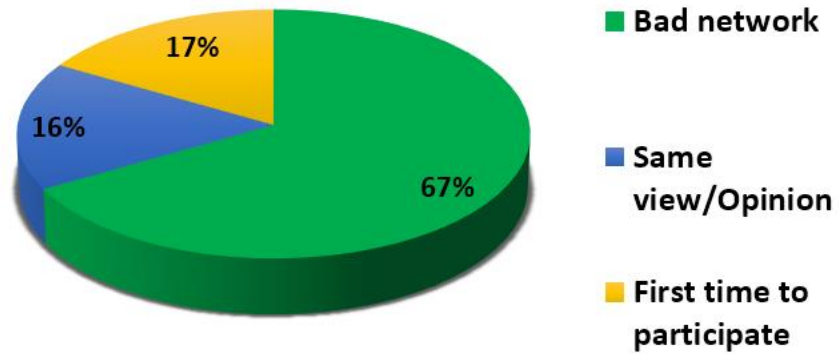


Evaluation

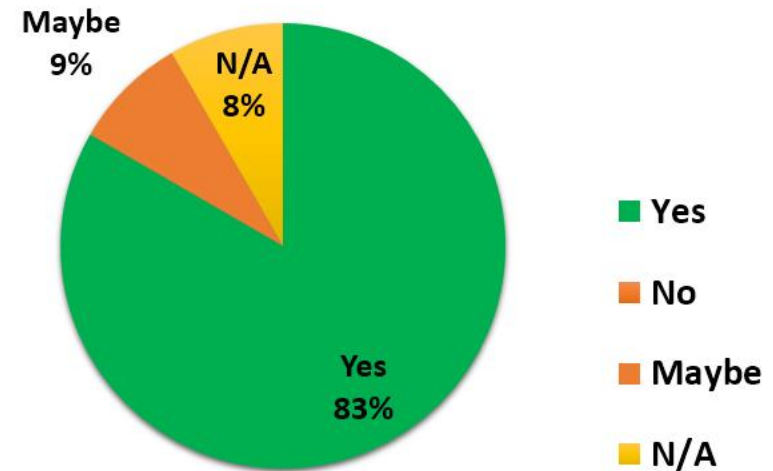
Did you have an opportunity and place to ask questions, give input, and participate?



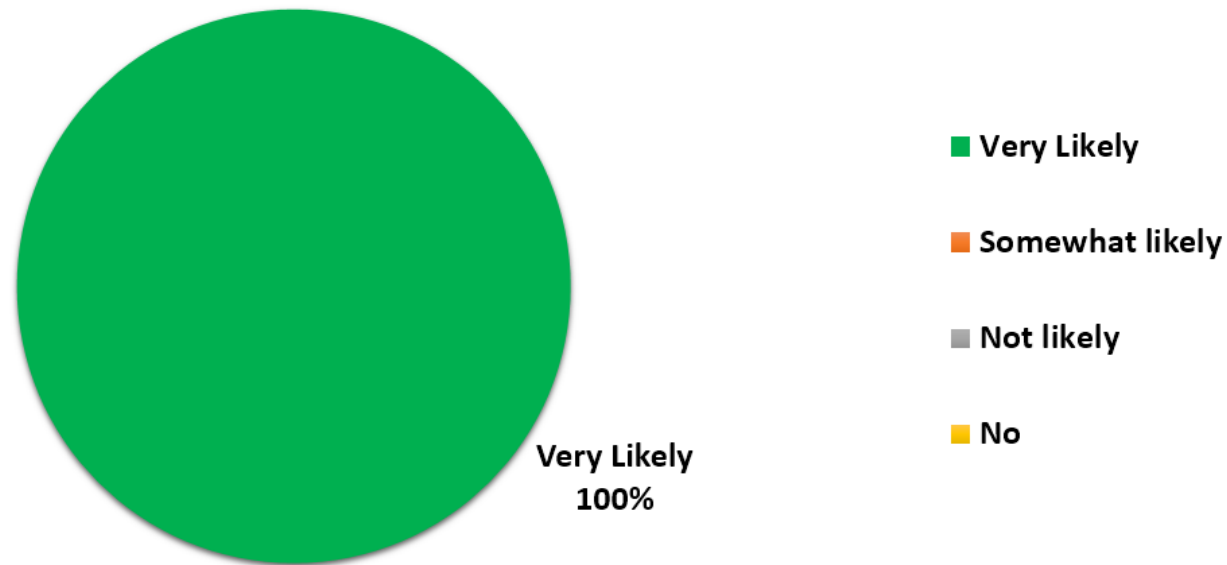
IF NO, Why?



If Yes, were you happy with the feedback?

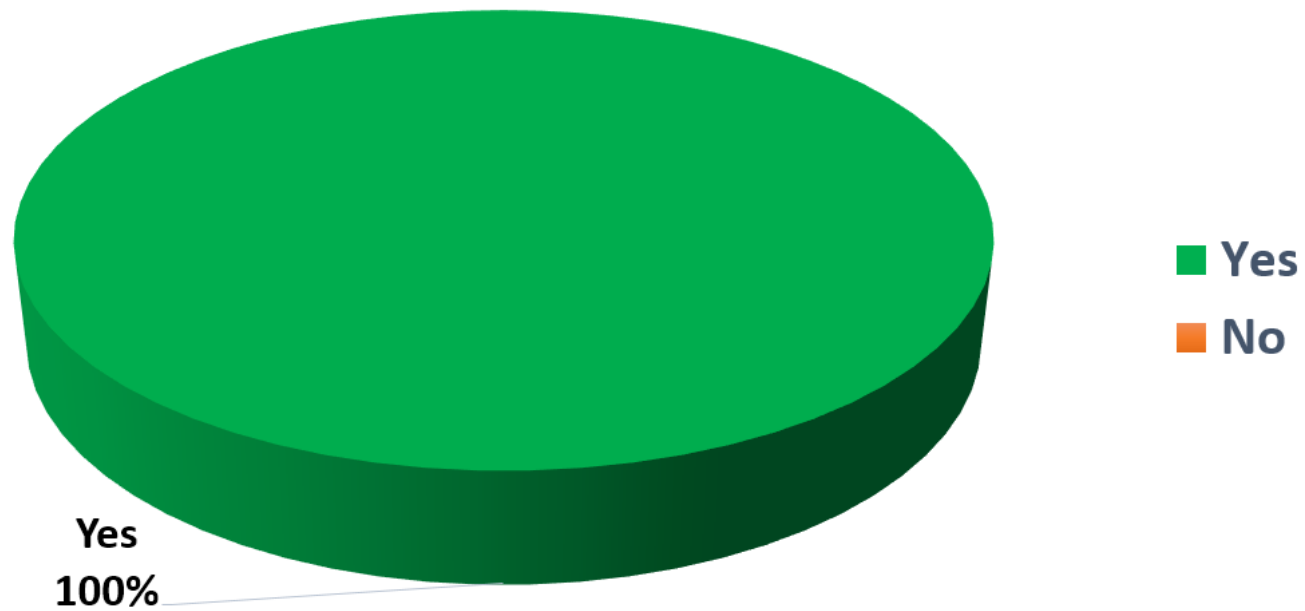


Based on your experience at this workshop, how likely are you to attend future workshops?

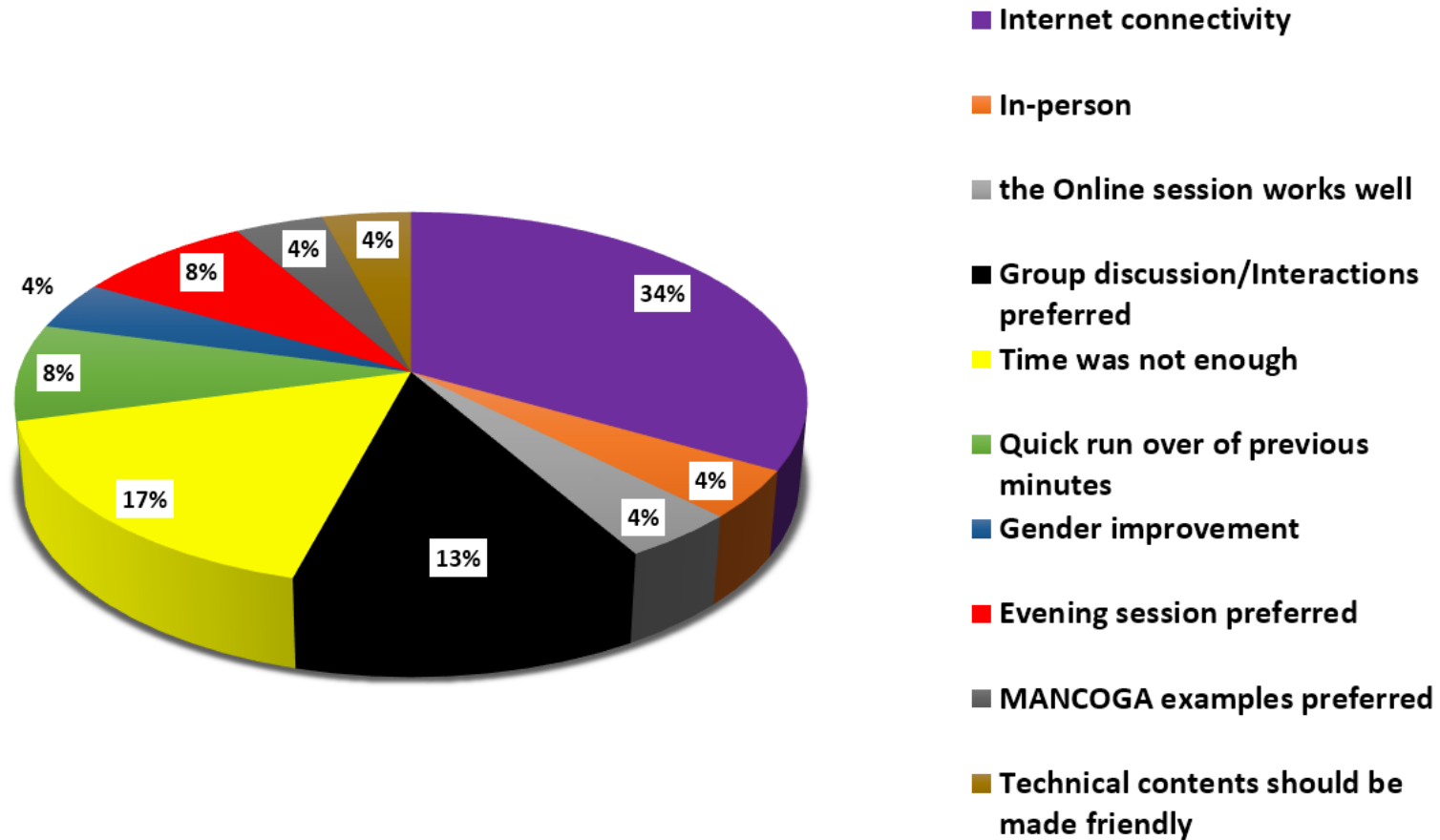


Evaluation

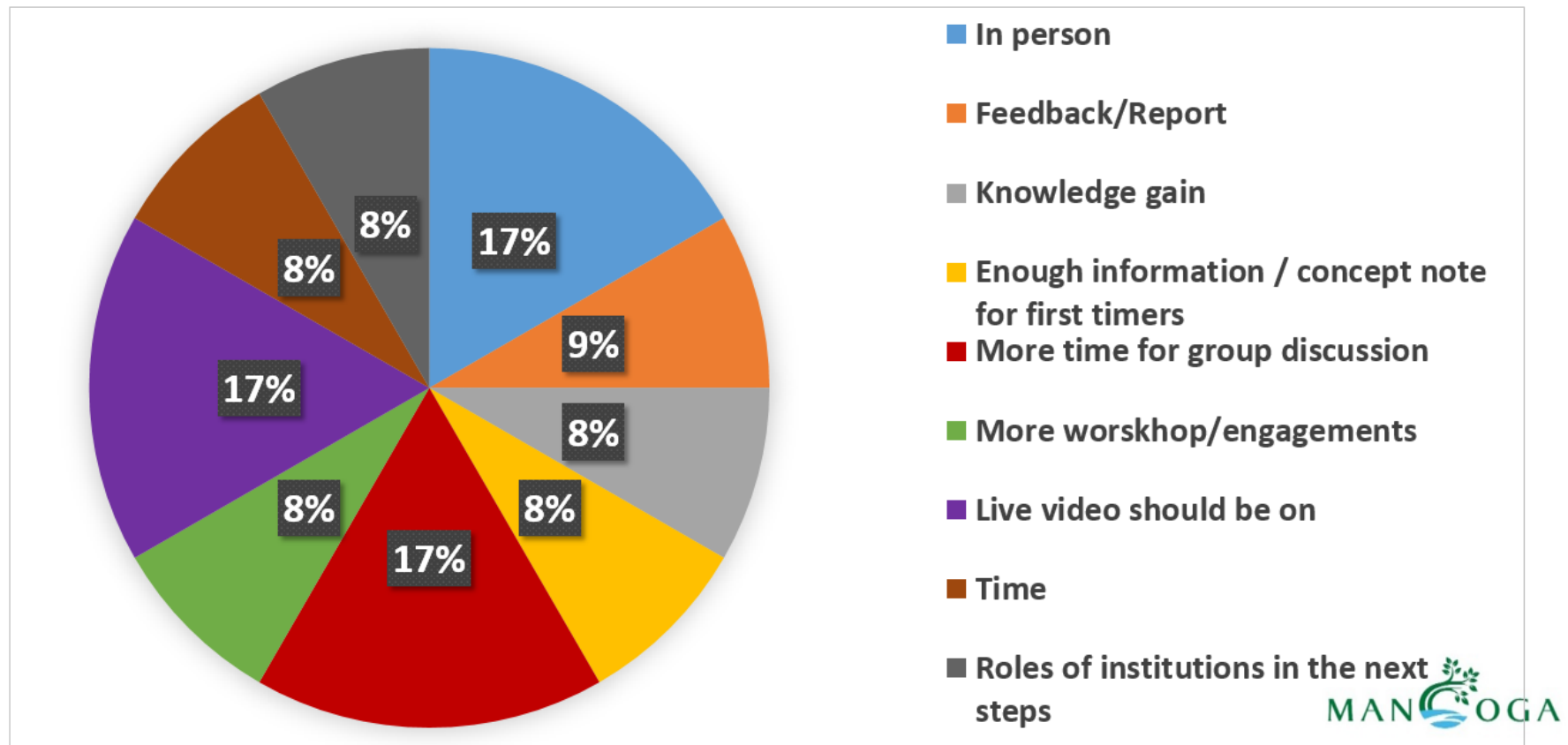
Would you recommend our MANCOGA workshops to a colleague?



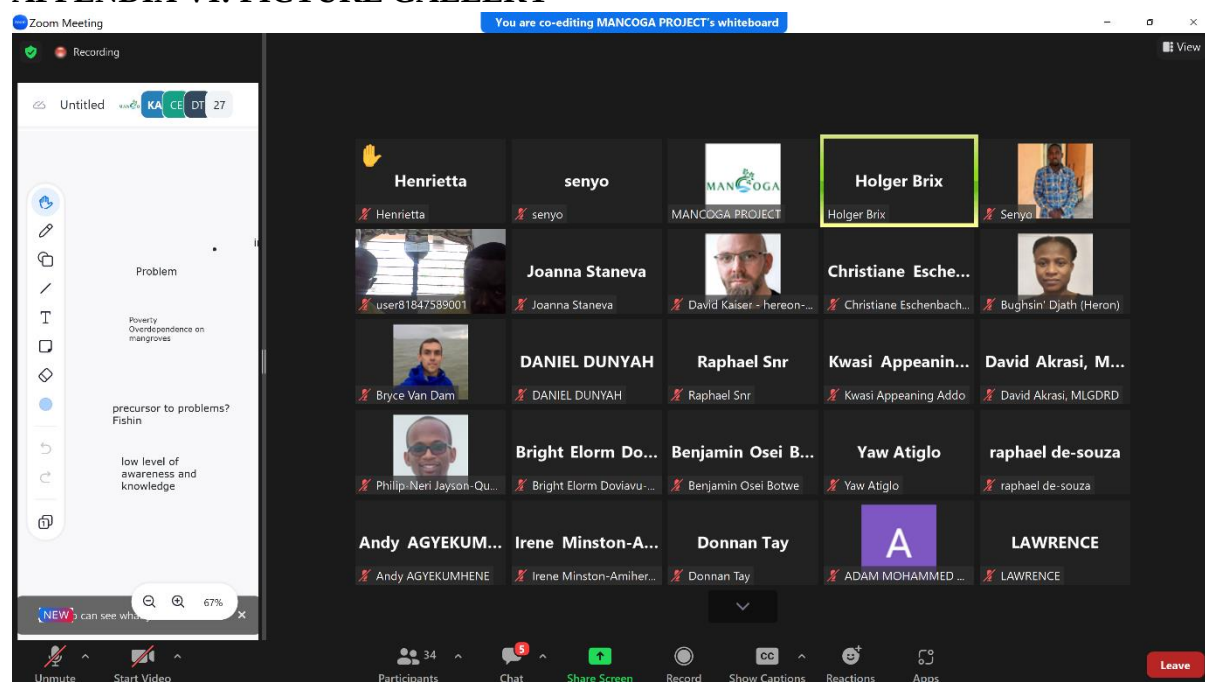
What could we improve on? What would have made this workshop better?



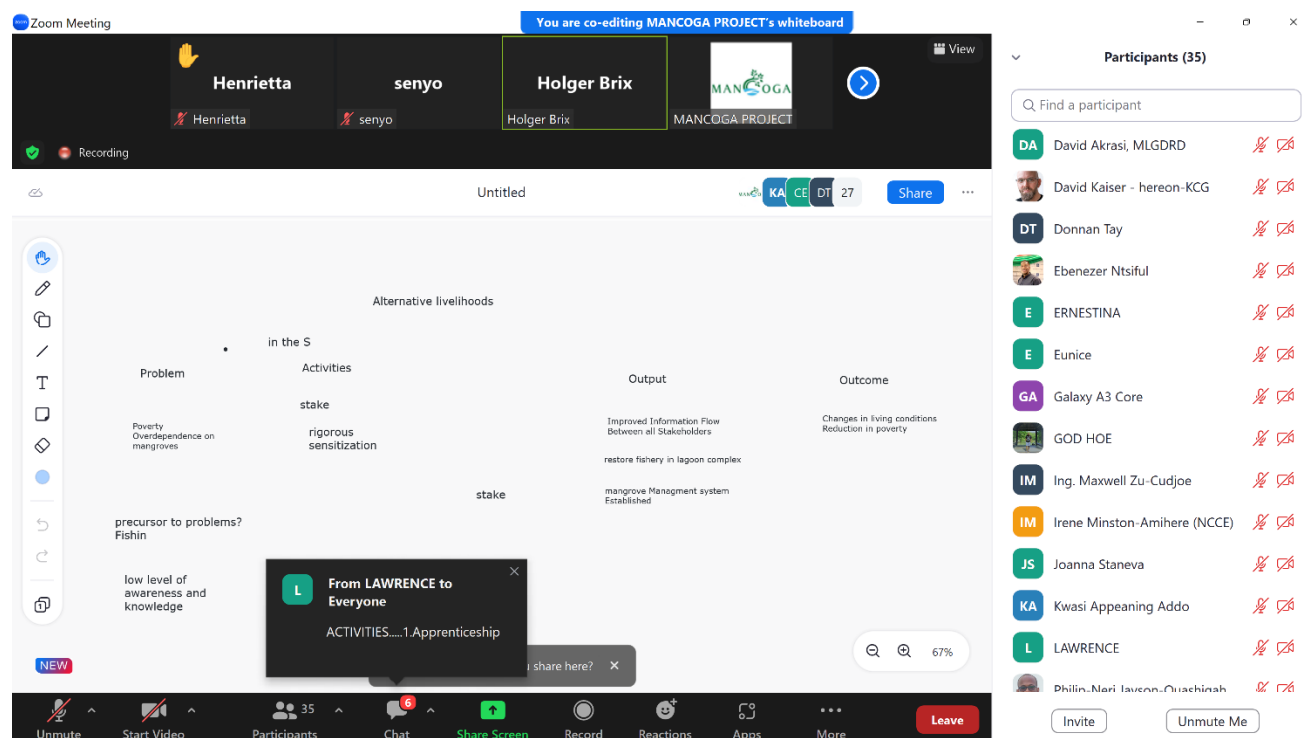
Additional comments, thoughts, suggestions for future workshops and collaboration.



APPENDIX VI: PICTURE GALLERY



MANCOGA Stakeholders participating in the virtual workshop on the zoom platform



A picture of participants working together on the white board



Picture of community-level stakeholders who assembled at a venue for the virtual meeting